

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R4-R-2013-N161;
FXRS1265040000S3-123-FF04R02000]

**Cat Island National Wildlife Refuge;
West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent; Comprehensive
Conservation Plan and Environmental
Assessment request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife
Service (Service), intend to prepare a
comprehensive conservation plan (CCP)
and associated National Environmental
Policy Act (NEPA) documents for Cat
Island National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).
We provide this notice in compliance
with our CCP policy to advise other
Federal and State agencies, Native-
American Tribes, and the public of our
intentions, and to obtain suggestions
and information on the scope of issues
to consider in the planning process.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we
must receive your written comments by
November 21, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments,
questions, and requests for information
to: Robert Strader, Project Leader,
USFWS, Lower Mississippi River
Refuge Complex, P.O. Box 217, Sibley,
MS, 39165.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Michelle Paduani, Project Planner, 662-
323-5548, michelle_paduani@fws.gov
or Robert Strader, Project Leader, 601-
442-6696, bob_strader@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Introduction**

With this notice, we initiate our
process for developing a CCP for Cat
Island NWR, West Feliciana Parish,
Louisiana. This notice complies with
our CCP policy to: (1) Advise other
Federal and State agencies, Native-
American tribes, and the public of our
intention to conduct detailed planning
on this refuge; and (2) obtain
suggestions and information on the
scope of issues to consider in the
environmental document and during
development of the CCP.

Background*The CCP Process*

The National Wildlife Refuge System
Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C.
668dd-668ee) (Administration Act), as
amended by the National Wildlife
Refuge System Improvement Act of
1997, requires us to develop a CCP for
each national wildlife refuge. The

purpose for developing a CCP is to
provide refuge managers with a 15-year
plan for achieving refuge purposes and
contributing toward the mission of the
National Wildlife Refuge System,
consistent with sound principles of fish
and wildlife management, conservation,
legal mandates, and our policies. In
addition to outlining broad management
direction on conserving wildlife and
their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-
dependent recreational opportunities
available to the public, including
opportunities for hunting, fishing,
wildlife observation, wildlife
photography, and environmental
education and interpretation. We will
review and update the CCP at least
every 15 years in accordance with the
Administration Act.

Each unit of the National Wildlife
Refuge System was established for
specific purposes. We use these
purposes as the foundation for
developing and prioritizing the
management goals and objectives for
each refuge within the National Wildlife
Refuge System mission, and to
determine how the public can use each
refuge. The planning process is a way
for us and the public to evaluate
management goals and objectives for the
best possible conservation approach to
this important wildlife habitat, while
providing for wildlife-dependent
recreation opportunities that are
compatible with the refuge's
establishing purposes and the mission
of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Our CCP process provides
participation opportunities for Tribal,
State, and local governments; agencies;
organizations; and the public. We
encourage input in the form of issues,
concerns, ideas, and suggestions for the
future management of Cat Island NWR.

We will conduct the environmental
review of this project in accordance
with the requirements of the National
Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as
amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et
seq.); NEPA regulations (40 CFR parts
1500-1508); other appropriate Federal
laws and regulations; and our policies
and procedures for compliance with
those laws and regulations.

The Cat Island National Wildlife
Refuge was established and shall be
managed—(1) to conserve, restore, and
manage habitats as necessary to
contribute to the migratory bird
population goals and habitat objective
as established through the Lower
Mississippi Valley Joint Venture; (2) to
conserve, restore, and manage the
significant aquatic resource values
associated with the area's forested
wetlands and to achieve the habitat
objectives of the "Mississippi River

Aquatic Resources Management Plan";
(3) to conserve, enhance, and restore the
historic native bottomland community
characteristics of the lower Mississippi
alluvial valley and its associated fish,
wildlife, and plant species; (4) to
conserve, enhance, and restore habitat
to maintain and assist in the recovery of
endangered, and threatened plants and
animals; and (5) to encourage the use of
volunteers and facilitate partnerships
among the United States Fish and
Wildlife Service, local communities,
conservation organizations, and other
non-Federal entities to promote public
awareness of the resources of the Refuge
and the National Wildlife Refuge
System and public participation in the
conservation of those resources. 114
STAT. 1418. dated Oct. 27, 2000

Public Availability and Comments

Before including your address, phone
number, email address, or other
personal identifying information in your
comment, you should be aware that
your entire comment—including your
personal identifying information—may
be made publicly available at any time.
While you can ask us in your comment
to withhold your personal identifying
information from public review, we
cannot guarantee that we will be able to
do so.

Authority

This notice is published under the
authority of the National Wildlife
Refuge System Improvement Act of
1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.).

Dated: September 5, 2013.

Cynthia K. Dohner,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 2013-24590 Filed 10-21-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-HQ-IA-2013-N231;
FXIA1671090000P5-123-FF09A30000]

**Endangered Species; Marine
Mammals; Issuance of Permits**

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of permits.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service (Service), have issued
the following permits to conduct certain
activities with endangered species,
marine mammals, or both. We issue
these permits under the Endangered
Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal
Protection Act (MMPA).